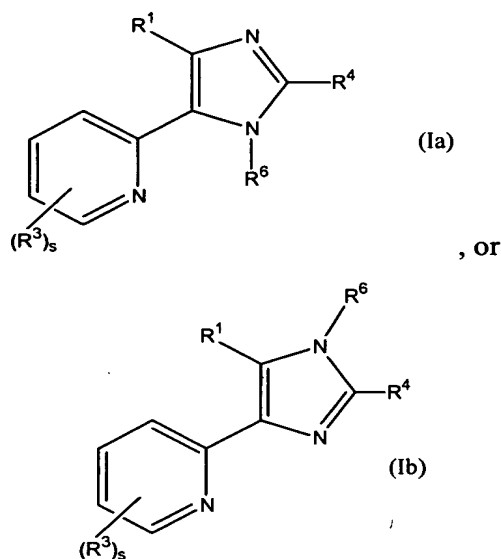


The claimed invention is:

1. A compound of the formula (Ia) or (Ib):



5

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, prodrug, hydrate, or solvate thereof, wherein:

- R^1 is an optionally substituted saturated, unsaturated, or aromatic C_3 - C_{20} mono-, bi- or polycyclic ring optionally containing at least one heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, O and S;

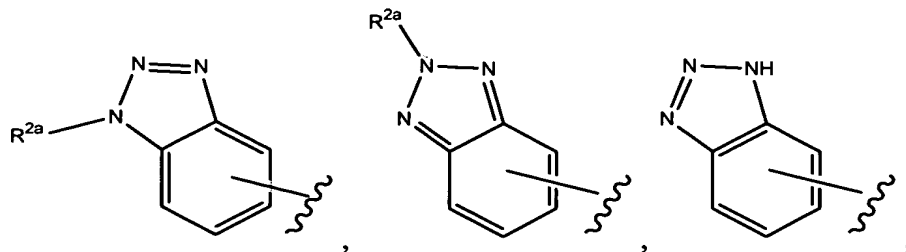
- each R^3 is independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, halo, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl, (C_2 - C_6)alkenyl, (C_2 - C_6)alkynyl, perhalo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl, (C_5 - C_{10})heteroaryl, (C_5 - C_{10})heterocyclic, (C_3 - C_{10})cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy, perhalo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C_5 - C_{10})heteroaryl-O-, (C_5 - C_{10})heterocyclic-O-, (C_3 - C_{10})cycloalkyl-O-, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl-S-, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl-SO₂-, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, nitro, cyano, amino, Ph(CH₂)₁₋₆NH-, (C_1 - C_6)alkylamino, [(C_1 - C_6)alkyl]₂-amino, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, amino(C=O)-, aminoSO₂-, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl-(C=O)-[((C_1 - C_6)alkyl)-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[((C_1 - C_6)alkyl)-N]-, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl-(C=O)-,

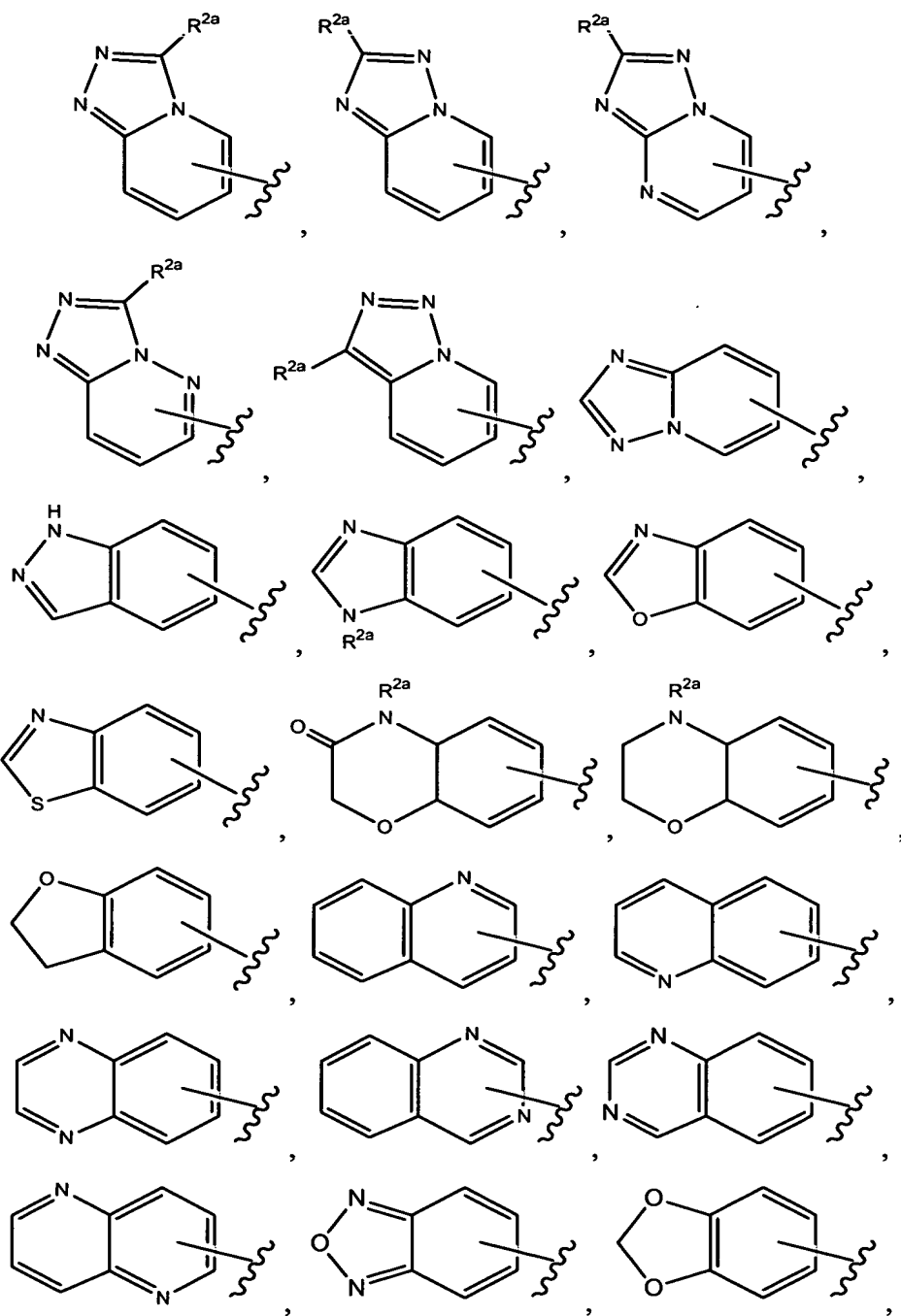
- phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₅-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₅-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)-(C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl-N]-(C=O)-, (C₅-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₅-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)- and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-, where R³ is optionally substituted by at least one substituent independently selected from (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, halo, H₂N-, Ph(CH₂)₁₋₆NH-, and (C₁-C₆)alkylNH-;

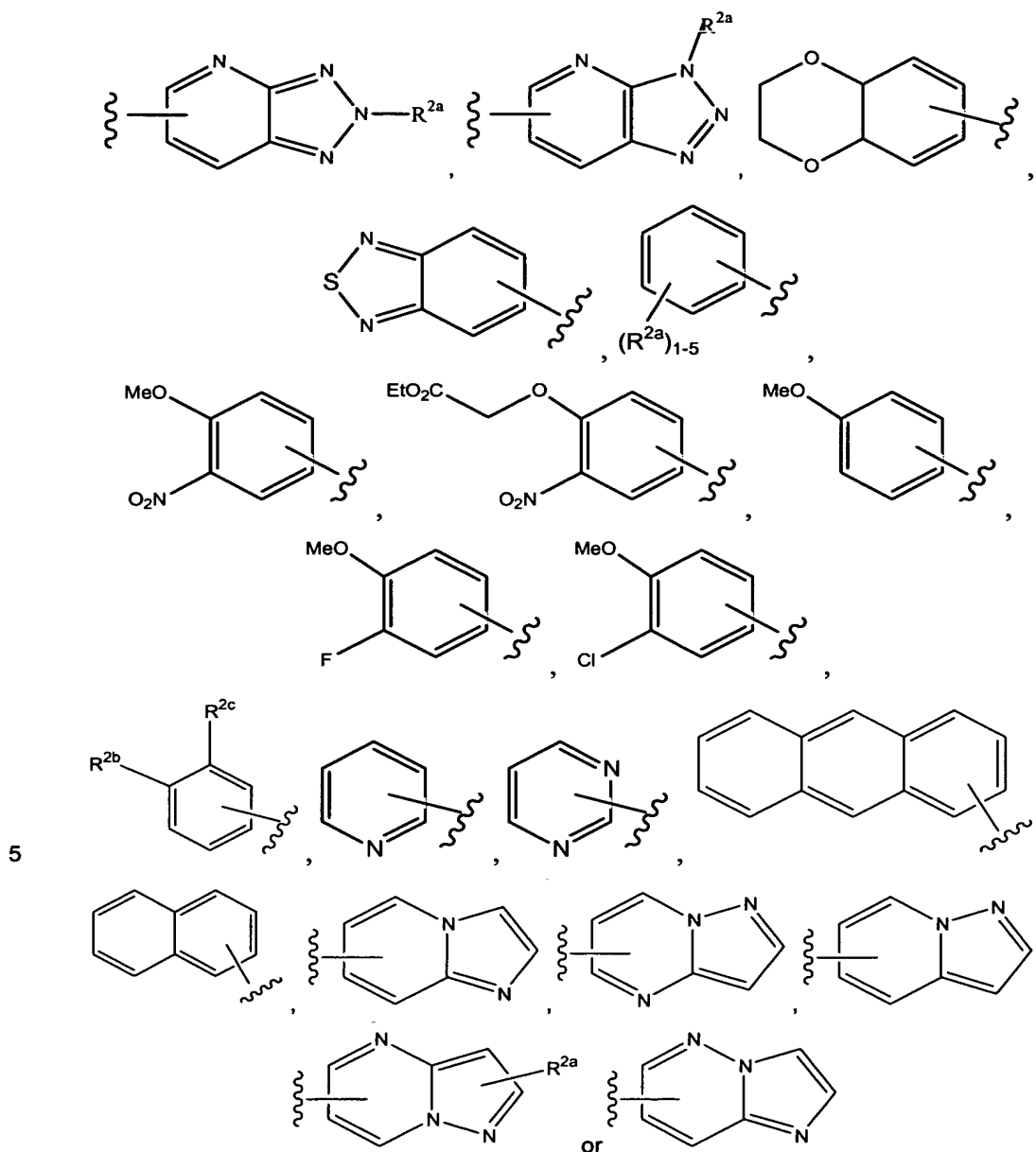
10 s is an integer from one to five; and

R⁴ and R⁶ taken together with the atoms to which they are attached form a core fused heteroaromatic.

- 15 2. A compound of claim 1, wherein R³ is a (C₁-C₆)alkyl or a (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl group.
3. A compound of claim 2, wherein R³ is a methyl or a cyclopropyl group;
- 20 4. A compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ is







wherein R^{2a} is independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen,
 (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₅-C₁₀)aryl,
 10 (C₁-C₆)alkyl(C₅-C₁₀)aryl, amino, carbonyl, carboxyl, (C₁-C₆)acid, (C₁-C₆)ester,
 (C₅-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₅-C₁₀)heterocyclyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, nitro, halo, hydroxyl,
 and (C₁-C₆)alkoxy(C₁-C₆)ester; and where alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl,
 amino, acid, ester, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, and alkoxy of R^{2a} is optionally

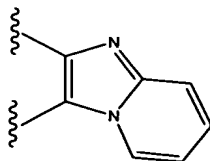
substituted by at least one moiety independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl,

- (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₅-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₅-C₁₀)heterocyclic, formyl, -CN,
 5 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-,
 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, ((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-,
 phenyl-(((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N)-(C=O)-, nitro, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino,
 ((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-,
 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-,
 10 phenyl-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, H₂N-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-NH-,
 ((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂N-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-,
 ((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂N-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, phenyl-HN-(C=O)-NH-,
 (phenyl)₂N-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-HN-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-,
 (phenyl)₂N-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-NH-,
 15 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, phenyl-O-(C=O)-NH-,
 phenyl-O-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂NH-, phenyl-SO₂NH-,
 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, phenyl-SO₂-, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy,
 phenoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-, (C₁-C₆)ester-(C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-, phenyl-(C=O)-O-,
 H₂N-(C=O)-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-O-, ((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂N-(C=O)-O-,
 20 phenyl-HN-(C=O)-O-, and (phenyl)₂N-(C=O)-O-; and

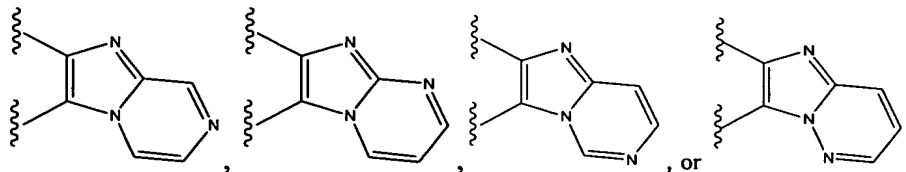
R^{2b} and R^{2c} taken together with the atoms to which they are attached form an optionally substituted mono-, bi- or polycyclic, saturated, unsaturated, or aromatic ring system optionally containing at least one heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, O and S.

25

5. A compound of claim 4, wherein said core fused heteroaromatic is:

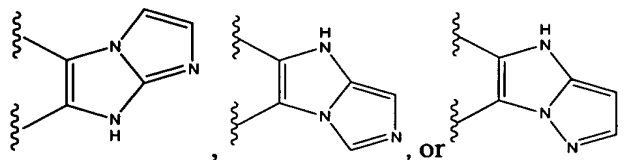


6. A compound of claim 4, wherein said core fused heteroaromatic is:

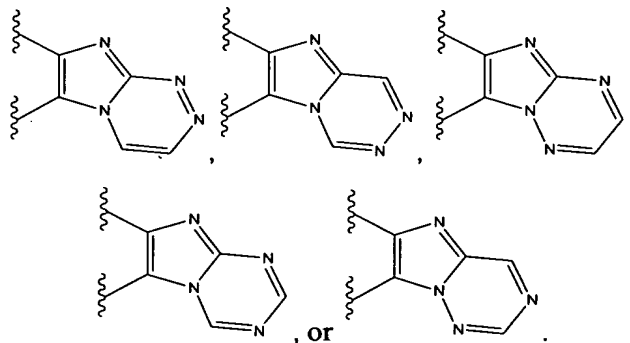


5

7. A compound of claim 4, wherein said core fused heteroaromatic is:

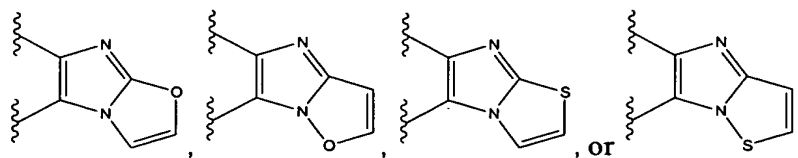


8. A compound of claim 4, wherein said core fused heteroaromatic is:



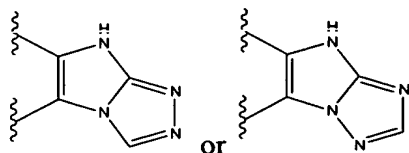
10

9. A compound of claim 4, wherein said core fused heteroaromatic is:

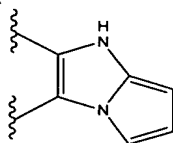


15

10. A compound of claim 4, wherein said core fused heteroaromatic is:

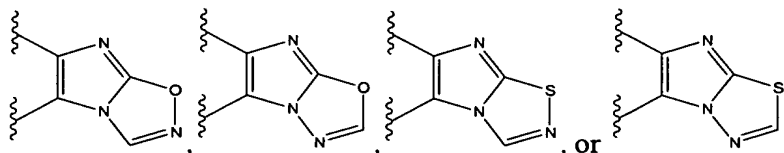


11. A compound of claim 4, wherein said core fused heteroaromatic is:



5

12. A compound of claim 4, wherein said core fused heteroaromatic is:



13. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

- 10 6-[2-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]-quinoline;
 6-[2-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]-quinoline;
 6-[2-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-3-yl]-quinoline;
 2-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-3-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-1H-imidazo[1,2-
 a]imidazole;
 15 2-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-3-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-
 a]pyrimidine;
 6-[2-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]-quinoline;
 6-[3-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-2-yl]-quinoline;
 6-[3-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-2-yl]-quinoline;
 20 6-[6-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b][1,3,4]thiadiazol-5-yl]-
 quinoline;
 6-[6-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-5-yl]-quinoline;
 6-[8-Methyl-2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]-
 quinoline;

6-[7-Methyl-2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]-
quinoline;

6-[6-Methyl-2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]-
quinoline;

5 6-[3-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-7H-imidazo[1,2-a]imidazol-2-yl]-quinoline;
1-Methyl-6-[3-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-2-yl]-1H-
benzotriazole;

1-Methyl-6-[2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]-1H-
benzotriazole;

10 6-[3-Methyl-6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-5-yl]-
quinoline;

6-[2-Methyl-6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-5-yl]-
quinoline;

15 6-[7-Methyl-2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-3-yl]-
quinoline;

2-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-3-quinolin-6-yl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-7-
ylamine;

6-[7-Methyl-2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-6-nitro-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]-
quinoline;

20 1-Methyl-6-[2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-3-yl]-1H-
benzotriazole;

1-Methyl-6-[6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-5-yl]-1H-
benzotriazole;

1-Methyl-6-[6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b][1,3,4]thiadiazol-5-yl]-
25 1H-benzotriazole;

2-Methyl-5-[2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-3-yl]-2H-
benzotriazole;

3-(2-Methyl-2H-benzotriazol-5-yl)-2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-
a]pyrimidin-7-ylamine;

30 2-Methyl-5-[6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-5-yl]-2H-
benzotriazole;

2-Methyl-5-[6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b][1,3,4]thiadiazol-5-yl]-
2H-benzotriazole;

2-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-3-quinolin-6-yl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-7-ol;

1-Methyl-6-[6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-2-methylsulfanyl-imidazo[2,1-b]
5 [1,3,4]thiadiazol-5-yl]-1H-benzotriazole;

Dimethyl-[2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-3-quinolin-6-yl-imidazo[1,2-
a]pyrimidin-7-yl]-amine;

2-Methyl-5-[3-methyl-6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-5-
yl]-2H-benzotriazole;

10 2-Methyl-5-[2-methyl-6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-5-
yl]-2H-benzotriazole;

2-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-3-pyridin-4-yl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine;

2-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-3-pyridin-4-yl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidine;

2-(6-Methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-3-pyridin-4-yl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-7-
15 ylamine;

3-Benzothiazol-6-yl-2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-7-
ylamine;

1-Methyl-6-[6-(6-cyclopropyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b][1,3,4]thiadiazol-
5-yl]-1H-benzotriazole;

20 3-Methyl-5-[6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-5-yl]-3H-
[1,2,3]triazolo[4,5-b]pyridine;

3-Methyl-5-[6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b][1,3,4]thiadiazol-5-yl]-
3H-[1,2,3]triazolo[4,5-b]pyridine;

2-Methyl-5-[6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-5-yl]-2H-
25 [1,2,3]triazolo[4,5-b]pyridine;

2-Methyl-5-[6-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-imidazo[2,1-b][1,3,4]thiadiazol-5-yl]-
2H-[1,2,3]triazolo[4,5-b]pyridine; and

2-Methyl-5-[2-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-7H-imidazo[1,2-a]imidazol-3-yl]-2H-
benzotriazole.

14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15. A method of preventing or treating a TGF-related disease state in an animal
5 or human comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of
a compound of claim 1 to the animal or human suffering from the TGF-related
disease state and wherein said TGF-related disease state is selected from the group
consisting of cancer, glomerulonephritis, diabetic nephropathy, hepatic fibrosis,
pulmonary fibrosis, intimal hyperplasia and restenosis, scleroderma, and dermal
10 scarring.